BAR OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

RETURN to an Address of the Honourable The House of Commons, dated 27 June 1878;—*for*,

"COPY of CORRESPONDENCE, in the Months of June, July, August, and November 1877, between the Under Treasurer of the King's Inns, *Dublin*, and the Treasurers and Officers of the Four Inns of Court, *London*, relating to the Proposal of the BENCHERS of the KING'S INNS to give increased Facilities for Admitting Members of the IRISH BAR to the BAR of *England*, and Members of the ENGLISH BAR to the BAR of *Ireland*."

Mr. *J. D. O'Hanlon* to the Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn.

Sir, King's Inns, Dublin, 14 June 1877.

THE Education Committee of the Benchers of the King's Inns in Ireland, to whom it has been referred by the benchers "to consider whether any facilities should be afforded to members of the English bar to be called to the Irish bar, such facilities being mutually given by the benchers of the Inns of Court in England," have authorised me to communicate their views for the consideration of the benchers of your Inn.

The committee consider that under the existing rules of the benchers in England, the degree of Barrister-at-law there now represents a standard of legal education sufficient to qualify the holder of it to be admitted to any other bar without any further educational test, and they are prepared to recommend to their benchers the adoption of a rule to the following effect:—

> Any member of the English bar, on production of a certificate from the benchers of the Inn to which he belongs, that he is a fit and proper person to be admitted to the bar of Ireland, shall be eligible for call on becoming a member of the King's Inns, and on payment of the necessary fees and stamp duty, such barrister on call to take precedence in Ireland from the date of his call to the bar there.

They trust that the benchers of your Inn, having regard to the system of legal education in force here, would be prepared to adopt a similar course with reference to members of the bar in Ireland seeking admission to the bar in England.

With a view of putting you in possession of the standard of legal education required by the benchers for call to the Irish bar, I beg to enclose a copy of our Rules, and a specimen of our Examination Papers.* *Not printed.

You will observe that, in addition to an examination, attendance on lectures is made a necessary condition for call to the Irish bar.

I am, &c.
(signed) *John D. O'Hanlon*,
Under Treasurer.

The Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn,
London.

The same letter was sent to the treasurer of each of the other three Inns of Court.

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Mr. *Doyle* to Mr. *J. D. O'Hanlon.*

Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.,
28 July 1877.

Dear Sir,

A MEETING of the committees of the four Inns of Court having been summoned for the purpose of considering your communication of the 14th June last, made in behalf of the benchers of the King's Inns in Ireland, I venture to ask you to let me have a few copies of the letter and accompanying papers sent to the several treasurers for reference by the members of the joint committee.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Ml. Doyle*, Steward.

John D. O. Hanlon, Esq.

Mr. *Doyle* to Mr. *J. D. O'Hanlon.*

Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.,
7 August 1877.

I HAVE to thank you for the papers so kindly forwarded, and beg to say that a meeting of the joint committee of the four Inns, to whom the communication from the King's Inns, Dublin, stands referred, was summoned for Wednesday last to consider the matter. Owing, however, to the pressure of business and other causes, the attendance was but small; and it appeared, therefore, more respectful to adjourn such meeting to the earliest day now possible, viz., 6th November.

I am, &c.
(signed) *Ml. Doyle*, Steward.

John D. O'Hanlon, Esq.,
Under Treasurer, King's Inns, Dublin.

Mr. *A. M. Skinner* to Mr. *J. D. O'Hanlon.*

Lincoln's Inn, London, W.C.,
27 November 1877.

Sir,

I INFORMED you, by a letter dated 7th August 1877, that the committee jointly appointed by the four Inns of Court to consider the communication dated 14th June 1877, addressed to the treasurers of the several Inns of Court by authority of the Education Committee of the Benchers of the King's Inns in Ireland, was adjourned till 6th November. On that day, accordingly, they met, and made a report, of which I enclose a copy, and which report was adopted by the Society of Lincoln's Inn at a council held yesterday, 26th November. I lose no time in forwarding it to you.

I have, &c.
(signed) *Allan Maclean Skinner*,
Treasurer of Lincoln's Inn.

J. D. O'Hanlon, Esq.,
Under Treasurer, King's Inns, Dublin.

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REPORT of the JOINT COMMITTEE of the FOUR INNS of COURT.

Council Chamber, Lincoln's Inn,
6 November 1877.

THE joint committee appointed by the four Inns of Court, to consider and report upon the communication dated 14th June 1877, addressed to the treasurers of the several Inns of Court by authority of the Education Committee or the Benchers of the King's Inns in Ireland, have, after due consideration, unanimously agreed to the following Report:—

Your Committee have not had any reason suggested to them, nor are they aware of any reasons, which appear to call for so great a change in the constitution of the English bar as is proposed in the communication in question, and they are accordingly of opinion that the suggestion made should not be accepted.

(signed) *Allan Maclean Skinner,*
Chairman of the Meeting
of the said Committee.

(signed) *John D. O'Hanlon.*
Under Treasurer.

King's Inns, 5 July 1878.

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BAR OF ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

COPY of CORRESPONDENCE, in the Months of June, July, August, and November 1877, between the Under Treasurer of the King's Inns, *Dublin*, and the Treasurer and Officers of the Four Inns of Court, *London*, relating to the Proposal of the Benchers of the King's Inns to give increased Facilities for Admitting Members of the IRISH BAR to the BAR of *England*, and Members of the ENGLISH BAR to the BAR of *Ireland*.

(*Mr. Serjeant Sherlock.*)

Ordered, by The *House of Commons*, *to be Printed*, 14 *August* 1878

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